



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

AFT Mini-Conference: Know Your Power!

Friday, April 25, 9:00 – 3:00

Power is often thought of zero-sum game: there are a few who have it and the rest of us are powerless. This concept of power is finite and results in competition to wield a limited amount of power. AFT believes and models power as a renewable resource. With this understanding, power is nurtured in community and shared with all. Instead of “power over something,” we believe in “power to do” and “power with each other.”

The goal of this mini-conference is to give AFT members a chance to connect and learn from one other. You'll have the chance to share experiences in your areas, disciplines and departments, dig into questions about good practices, and create connections with colleagues across service areas, departments, campuses and districts. Please submit a proposal and share your power!

What we're looking for:

- Diverse topics

While the theme is Know Your Power, what this mini-conference aims to do is to share our experiences and learn together. We have four different tracks:

- Power in AFT Community
 - Did you participate in any of AFT's AI classes or programs like M&M, Leadership 101, or the Intern program? We invite you to put together a panel and share what you've learned!
- Power in Pedagogy
 - Have you changed your classroom practices, revamped course content, or created a new Canvas shell? Please submit a proposal and share how that has empowered your students!
- Power in Service
 - This track is specifically designed for classified professionals to share the work they are doing in their areas. Is your outreach program empowering students to return to college? Share that with us!

- Power in Research
 - Did you take a sabbatical in the past two years? Are you doing research in your discipline? We want you to include us in your passion and tell us about it!
- Practicality and positivity

We prefer presentations focused on experience and experimentation over theory. Please have the presentations focus on why you did what you did, what you did, how you accomplished it, and how it has empowered your students, your colleagues and/or your community!

- Audience awareness

When writing your proposal, remember that you're going to be talking to AFT members, which include classified professionals, instructional faculty and non-instructional faculty. Your presentation doesn't have to be relevant to all AFT members, but it should be written so that most AFT members could learn something from it.

Who we're looking for:

In short, if you share power through service, teaching or community, then we want to hear from you! Since that includes everyone on our community, here are some helpful and concrete points of what we're seeking:

- Diverse group of presenters/panelists

We invite talks from first-time presenters and seasoned speakers. Whatever your background or experience, we want to provide a platform for you to share what you're doing in your departments, what you've tried in the classroom, how you're building community, and what research you're doing. We want to highlight the big and small efforts that YOU make, and we welcome presenters and panels that mirror our campus communities.

- Mix of roles and perspectives

Presentations or panels from classified professionals, instructional faculty (part-time and full-time), and non-instructional faculty are all encouraged. A Caring Campus initiative by classified professionals, can provide perspective for faculty. A Canvas course shell that was rebuilt with a new organizational structure grading methods can provide insight to admin in a VP's office. We learn from and share power with each other!

Not sure about speaking?

Please don't fret about whether we will accept your proposal, just submit it! And if public speaking isn't your thing and it gives you hives just thinking about standing up in front of a room, how about getting some of your colleagues together and forming a panel to talk about the how you create and share power in your classroom, your office, your area?

The proposal is a simple paragraph that describes the presentation or panel. Please be sure to focus on the theme!

Presentation format

Presentations will be scheduled in 55-minute blocks. Solo presentations will have 15 minutes and will be grouped together with two other presenters. Each block will have 10 minutes Q&A. Panel presentations will have 40 minutes followed by a 15 minute Q&A..

Questions?

If you have any questions, please email aftprofdev@outlook.com

Submit your proposal here: <https://forms.office.com/r/UqE5j6HwQK>

The **deadline for submitting proposals is 5:0 pm on Monday, March 31, 2025.** Acceptance notifications and presenter details will be sent out by noon on Monday, April 7, 2025.